

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

In re:

WINC, INC. *et al.*,<sup>1</sup>

Debtors.

Chapter 11

Case No. 22-11238 (LSS)

(Jointly Administered)

**Objection Deadline: March 6, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. (ET)**

**Hearing Date: Only in the event necessary**

**FIRST MONTHLY APPLICATION OF ARENTFOX SCHIFF LLP,  
COUNSEL TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF UNSECURED CREDITORS,  
FOR INTERIM ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION AND  
REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES FOR SERVICES RENDERED DURING  
THE PERIOD FROM DECEMBER 15, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022**

Name of Applicant:

ArentFox Schiff LLP

Authorized to Provide  
Professional Services to:

Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

Date of Retention:

January 8, 2023 (*nunc pro tunc* to December 15,  
2022)

Period for which Compensation  
and Reimbursement are sought:

December 15, 2022 through December 31, 2022

Amount of Compensation sought as  
actual, reasonable, and necessary:

\$112,517.50

Amount of Expense Reimbursement sought  
as actual, reasonable, and necessary:

\$959.67

This is a(n):   X   monthly        interim        final application

The total time expended for fee application preparation is approximately 0 hours and the corresponding compensation requested is approximately \$0.00.

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<sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor's federal tax identification number, are: Winc, Inc. (8960); BWSC, LLC (0899); and Winc Lost Poet, LLC (N/A). The Debtors' mailing address for purposes of these chapter 11 cases is 1751 Berkeley Street, Studio 3, Santa Monica, CA 90404.

**PRIOR FEE APPLICATIONS FILED**

		Requested		Approved		
Date Filed	Period Covered	Fees	Expenses	Fees	Expenses	Amount of Holdback
None.						

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ArentFox Schiff LLP (“ArentFox Schiff”), counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors (the “Committee”) of Winc, Inc. (“Winc”) and its debtor affiliates (collectively, the “Debtors”), hereby submits its first monthly application (the “Application”) pursuant to (i) sections 330 and 331 of title 11 of the United States Code, 11 U.S.C. §§ 101-1532 (the “Bankruptcy Code”), (ii) Rule 2016 of the Federal Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure (the “Bankruptcy Rules”), (iii) Rule 2016-2 of the Local Rules of Bankruptcy Procedure for the District of Delaware (the “Local Rules”), (iv) the *Order Establishing Procedures for Interim Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses of Professionals* [Docket No. 126] (the “Compensation Order”), and (v) the *Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation Filed Under 11 U.S.C. § 330*, effective May 17, 1996 (the “Guidelines”) for interim allowance of compensation for services rendered in the aggregate amount of \$112,517.50 and for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred by ArentFox Schiff in connection

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<sup>1</sup> The Debtors in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of each Debtor’s federal tax identification number, are: Winc, Inc. (8960); BWSC, LLC (0899); and Winc Lost Poet, LLC (N/A). The Debtors’ mailing address for purposes of these chapter 11 cases is 1751 Berkeley Street, Studio 3, Santa Monica, CA 90404.

therewith in the amount of \$959.67 for the period from December 15, 2022 through December 31, 2022 (the “Compensation Period”). In support of this Application, ArentFox Schiff respectfully represents as follows:

### **JURISDICTION**

1. The Court has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 157 and 1334, and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference* from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated as of February 29, 2012 (the “Amended Standing Order”). This is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(2), and the Court may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution.

2. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409.

3. The statutory bases for the relief requested herein are Bankruptcy Code sections 1103 and 330, Bankruptcy Rule 2016, and Local Rule 2016-2.

### **BACKGROUND**

4. On December 1, 2022 (the “Petition Date”), each of the Debtors filed a voluntary petition for relief under chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the “Court”). The Debtors continue to operate their businesses as debtors-in-possession pursuant to sections 1107 and 1108 of the Bankruptcy Code. No trustee or examiner has been appointed in these cases.

5. On December 12, 2022, the United States Trustee for Region 3 (the “U.S. Trustee”) appointed the Committee and, on December 15, 2022, the Committee selected ArentFox Schiff as its counsel.

6. On February 8, 2023, the Court approved the retention of ArentFox Schiff as counsel to the Committee *nunc pro tunc* to December 15, 2022 [Docket No. 229].

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

7. By this Application, ArentFox Schiff seeks (i) interim allowance and award of compensation for the professional services rendered by ArentFox Schiff as attorneys during the Compensation Period in the amount of \$112,517.50, representing 173.70 hours of professional services and 26.40 hours of paraprofessional services; and (ii) reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred by ArentFox Schiff during the Compensation Period in connection with the rendition of such professional and paraprofessional services in the amount of \$959.67.

8. ArentFox Schiff seeks payment of 80% of its fees (\$90,014.00) and 100% of its expenses (\$959.67) relating to services rendered during the Compensation Period.

9. As stated in the Declaration of George P. Angelich, Esq. (the “Angelich Declaration”), annexed hereto as **Exhibit A**, all services for which compensation is requested by ArentFox Schiff were performed for or on behalf of the Committee.

10. ArentFox Schiff has received no payment and no promises for payment from any source for services rendered or to be rendered in any capacity whatsoever in connection with the matters covered by this Application for the Compensation Period. There is no agreement or understanding between ArentFox Schiff and any persons other than the partners of ArentFox Schiff for the sharing of compensation to be received for services rendered in these cases.

**SUMMARY OF SERVICES RENDERED**

11. This Application provides a brief summary of the services rendered by ArentFox Schiff on behalf of the Committee during the Compensation Period by category. While it is not possible or practical to describe each and every activity undertaken by ArentFox Schiff, ArentFox Schiff has maintained contemporaneous time records, which include a detailed chronology of the daily services rendered describing the precise nature of the work, the specific

tasks performed, and the time expended by each attorney and paraprofessional. A copy of the time records for the Compensation Period is annexed hereto as **Exhibit B.**<sup>2</sup> A breakdown of the hours and fees by attorney and paraprofessional is annexed hereto as **Exhibit C.**

12. A schedule setting forth the number of hours expended by ArentFox Schiff professionals in each of the project categories utilized in these cases, and the aggregate fees associated with each category is attached hereto as **Exhibit D.**

13. To the best of ArentFox Schiff's knowledge, this Application complies with sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, the Bankruptcy Rules, the Guidelines, Local Rule 2016-2, and the Compensation Order.

**A. Petition, Schedules, First Day Orders**

Fees: \$35,386.50                      Total Hours: 60.50

14. During the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff reviewed and analyzed the Debtors' first and second day pleadings—including, but not limited to, motions seeking authority to pay employee wages, benefits and related obligations; maintain the Debtors' existing cash management system; pay prepetition and postpetition obligations; designate and pay claims of certain critical vendors; approve debtor in possession financing; and reject certain unexpired leases of nonresidential real property and executory contracts. ArentFox Schiff summarized the relief sought in these pleadings for the Committee, provided recommendations with respect thereto, and engaged in internal communications regarding strategy with respect to the various motions, conducting legal research as necessary.

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<sup>2</sup> ArentFox Schiff may redact from its invoices certain descriptions of services that are confidential or privileged. To the extent ArentFox Schiff includes a redacted invoice in this Application, it will provide an un-redacted version to the U.S. Trustee and for *in camera* inspection by the Court.

15. Further, during the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff prepared for and attended the Court hearing to consider final approval of the first and second day orders and negotiated consensual resolutions with respect to open issues with Debtors' counsel and other parties in interest prior to the hearings. In furtherance of attempted consensual resolutions, ArentFox Schiff provided comments and revisions to the Debtors' final orders to obviate the need for contested hearings. ArentFox Schiff ultimately prepared and filed an objection with respect to certain of the first and second day motions.

**B. Case Management and Operating Reports**

Fees: \$6,344.50                      Total Hours: 11.30

16. This category includes time expended by ArentFox Schiff on a variety of activities relating to day-to-day management and prosecution of the chapter 11 cases. Services rendered in this project category during the Compensation Period include, among other things, preparation of the Committee bylaws, and other administrative materials for the Committee, negotiation of confidentiality provisions, internal case status meetings, review of material concerning the background and financial posture of the cases, and drafting of Committee meeting agenda.

**C. Investigation, Due Diligence and Analysis**

Fees: \$212.00                      Total Hours: 0.80

17. This category relates to ArentFox Schiff's compilation and organization of due diligence materials.

**D. Committee and Debtor Communications, Conference**

Fees: \$15,866.00                      Total Hours: 24.80

18. The Committee's professionals held regular meetings to discuss and consider strategy in connection with the Debtors' cases as well as to ensure efficient administration and avoid duplication. These meetings involved considerable preparatory work regarding agendas, task lists and follow-up discussions and meetings. ArentFox Schiff also interviewed candidates for serving as the Committee's financial advisor.

19. ArentFox Schiff also prepared for and participated in regular Committee conference calls to provide an overview and recommendations with respect to legal and factual issues presented in these cases, including first and second day motions, the Debtors' proposed debtor-in-possession financing, objections to certain first and second day motions, the Debtors' proposed sale, settlement discussions and other significant case issues and developments. With respect to these weekly calls, ArentFox Schiff was engaged in e-mail correspondence internally and with other professionals regarding preparation for the meetings. Additionally, ArentFox Schiff summarized pleadings for the Committee, prepared analyses of proposed actions and answered individual questions from Committee members. Furthermore, ArentFox Schiff corresponded with Debtors' counsel and counsel for the stalking horse bidder/DIP lender, Canaccord, and the prepetition lender in order to address objections, case status, other open issues, and ultimately negotiate resolutions.

**E. Sale and Disposition of Assets**

Fees: \$13,282.00                      Total Hours: 24.50

20. During the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff reviewed and analyzed the Debtors' bidding procedures and sale motion, including the stalking horse APA, its economics, and the provisions for the assumption and assignment of assets and liabilities. ArentFox Schiff engaged in numerous phone calls with various parties concerning the Debtors' sale motion,



including the Debtors' counsel and the Committee's financial advisor. ArentFox Schiff exchanged revisions of multiple sale pleadings and proposed orders and the APA itself with the Debtors' counsel in order to address the Committee's concerns. ArentFox Schiff also prepared for depositions of certain parties in connection with the Debtor's sale motion.

**F. Professional Retention**

Fees: \$8,120.00                      Total Hours: 24.70

21. During the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff prepared its retention application as counsel to the Committee and spent time working with the Committee to finalize each Committee's professional's retention application and exhibits thereto, and declarations in support, for the retention and employment of such professionals. The Court entered orders approving the retention applications of ArentFox Schiff, Saccullo Legal LLC, and CohnReznick in January 2023 and ArentFox Schiff's work finalizing the retention Orders will be reflected in ArentFox Schiff's monthly fee application for January 2023.

22. During the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff also reviewed, analyzed, summarized, and provided recommendations to the Committee with respect to the (a) retention applications and connections disclosures, of the Debtors' professionals, including Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP, as counsel to the Debtors; RPA Advisors Inc., as the financial advisor for the Debtors; and Canaccord Genuity LLC, as investment banker for the Debtors; and (b) the relief requested in the Debtors' motion to retain ordinary course professionals.

**G. Cash Collateral and DIP Financing**

Fees: \$15,844.00                      Total Hours: 27.00

23. During the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff reviewed, analyzed, and summarized for the Committee the terms of the debtor-in-possession motion (the "DIP Motion"),

including the terms of the debtor-in-possession financing and protections being provided to the DIP lender/stalking horse bidder. As directed by the Committee, ArentFox Schiff researched, drafted and filed a limited objection to the DIP Motion setting forth the Committee's issues and concerns with respect final order approving the DIP Motion and exchanged revisions to the DIP pleadings with the Debtors, the DIP lender, and other interested parties.

**H. Executory Contracts and Related Matters**

Fees: \$1,782.50                      Total Hours: 3.00

24. This category relates to ArentFox Schiff's review and analysis of the Debtors' Directors and Officers insurance policies.

**I. Debtor Communications/Negotiations**

Fees: \$12,380.00                      Total Hours: 18.00

25. In connection with this category of services, ArentFox Schiff recorded time spent in discussion with the Debtors' counsel regarding various issues, including but not limited to the Debtors' bidding procedures motion and DIP Motion.

**J. Travel**

Fees: \$840.00                      Total Hours: 1.40

26. This category includes time expended by ArentFox Schiff professionals traveling to and from Delaware to attend court hearings. This matter is billed at 50% in accordance with the Local Rules.

**STATUTORY BASIS FOR COMPENSATION**

27. The statutory predicates for the relief sought herein are sections 330 and 331 of the Bankruptcy Code, as supplemented by Bankruptcy Rule 2016. ArentFox Schiff seeks compensation for actual, necessary professional services rendered and reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred on behalf of the Committee during the Compensation Period.

28. Section 331 of the Bankruptcy Code permits professionals employed by the Bankruptcy Court to apply for interim compensation under the standards set forth in section 330. Section 330(a)(1) of the Bankruptcy Code allows for the following: “(A) reasonable compensation for actual, necessary services rendered by. . . [an] attorney and by any paraprofessional person employed by such [attorney]; and (B) reimbursement for actual, necessary expenses.”

29. Section 330(a)(3)(A) of the Bankruptcy Code provides that,

[i]n determining the amount of reasonable compensation to be awarded . . . the court shall consider the nature, the extent, and the value of such services, taking into account all relevant factors, including (A) the time spent on such services; (B) the rates charged for such services; (C) whether the services were necessary to the administration of, or beneficial at the time at which the service was rendered toward the completion of, a case under [Title 11]; (D) whether the services were performed within a reasonable amount of time commensurate with the complexity, importance, and nature of the problem, issue or task addressed . . . and (F) whether the compensation is reasonable based on the customary compensation charged by comparably skilled practitioners in cases other than cases under this title [11].

11 U.S.C. § 330(a)(3).

30. Congress intended that bankruptcy attorneys be compensated at the market rate for comparable services in non-bankruptcy cases. *See In re Ames Dep’t Stores, Inc.*, 76 F.3d 66, 71 (2d Cir. 1996) (citing *In re UNR Indus., Inc.*, 986 F.2d 207, 208–09 (7th Cir. 1993)); see also *In re Drexel Burnham Lambert Group, Inc.*, 133 B.R. 13, 21–22 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 1991) (Conrad, J.). The policy of section 330 is to ensure that qualified attorneys will “not be deterred from taking bankruptcy cases due to a failure to pay adequate compensation.” *Ames Dep’t Stores*, 76 F.3d at 72 (citing *UNR Indus.*, 986 F.2d at 210).

31. As demonstrated in ArentFox Schiff’s time records for the Compensation Period, the services were performed efficiently and effectively and were done at the request of the Committee in furtherance of the fiduciary obligations or statutory duty of the Committee and

were necessary and beneficial to the bankruptcy estates. ArentFox Schiff believes that the foregoing rates for the services rendered are in accord with the market rates that the majority of law firms charge their clients for such services.

### **ACTUAL AND NECESSARY EXPENSES**

32. During the Compensation Period, ArentFox Schiff incurred \$959.67 in expenses on behalf of the Committee. While representing the Committee in these cases, ArentFox Schiff will limit its photocopying expenses to \$.10 per page for black and white copies and \$.80 for color copies and its charges for out-going facsimile transmissions to \$1.00 per page, in accordance with the Local Rules.

33. It is ArentFox Schiff's policy to charge its clients in all areas of practice for expenses incurred in connection with their clients' cases. The expenses charged to clients include, among other things, telecommunications, express mail, messenger services, photocopying costs, travel expenses, working meals, computerized research, and transcription costs. ArentFox Schiff will charge the Debtors' estates for these expenses in a manner and at rates consistent with charges made generally to ArentFox Schiff's other clients. ArentFox Schiff believes that it is fairer to charge these expenses to the clients incurring them than to increase the hourly rates and spread the expenses among all clients. In providing a reimbursable expense, ArentFox Schiff does not make a profit on that expense, whether the service is performed by ArentFox Schiff in-house or through a third party.

34. ArentFox Schiff believes the foregoing rates are the market rates that the majority of law firms charge clients for such services. In addition, ArentFox Schiff believes that such charges are in accordance with the guidelines of the American Bar Association ("ABA"), as set forth in the ABA's Statement of Principles, dated January 12, 1995, regarding billing for

disbursements and other charges.

**NOTICE**

35. ArentFox Schiff has served this application in accordance with the Interim Compensation Order and the Bankruptcy Local Rules. ArentFox Schiff submits that no further notice is required.

**NO PRIOR REQUEST**

36. No prior request for the relief sought in this Application has been made to this or any other court.

**WHEREFORE**, ArentFox Schiff respectfully requests that the Court:

(a) approve, on an interim basis, the allowance of \$112,517.50 for compensation for professional services rendered to the Committee during the period from December 15, 2022 through and including December 31, 2022;

(b) approve the reimbursement of ArentFox Schiff's out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection with the rendering of such services during the period from December 15, 2022 through and including December 31, 2022, in the amount of \$959.67; and

(c) authorize and direct the Debtors to immediately pay to ArentFox Schiff the amount of \$90,973.67, which is equal to the sum of 80% of ArentFox Schiff's fees and 100% of ArentFox Schiff's expenses incurred during the Compensation Period.

Dated: February 14, 2023

By: /s/ George P. Angelich  
George P. Angelich (*pro hac vice*)  
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